

## **§ 46b-54. (Formerly Sec. 46-43). Counsel for minor children. Duties.**

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### **Connecticut Statutes**

#### **Title 46B. FAMILY LAW**

#### **Chapter 815J. DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE, LEGAL SEPARATION AND ANNULMENT**

*Current through P.A. 50 of the 2011 Regular Session*

### **§ 46b-54. (Formerly Sec. 46-43). Counsel for minor children. Duties**

(a) The court may appoint counsel for any minor child or children of either or both parties at any time after the return day of a complaint under section 46b-45, if the court deems it to be in the best interests of the child or children. The court may appoint counsel on its own motion, or at the request of either of the parties or of the legal guardian of any child or at the request of any child who is of sufficient age and capable of making an intelligent request.

(b) Counsel for the child or children may also be appointed on the motion of the court or on the request of any person enumerated in subsection (a) of this section in any case before the court when the court finds that the custody, care, education, visitation or support of a minor child is in actual controversy, provided the court may make any order regarding a matter in controversy prior to the appointment of counsel where it finds immediate action necessary in the best interests of any child.

(c) Counsel for the child or children shall be heard on all matters pertaining to the interests of any child, including the custody, care, support, education and visitation of the child, so long as the court deems such representation to be in the best interests of the child.

#### **Source:**

**(P.A. 73-373, S. 16; P.A. 74-169, S. 9, 18; P.A. 75-530, S. 13, 35; P.A. 78-230, S. 28, 54.)**

**History.** P.A. 74-169 rephrased provision re appointment of counsel for children, deleting requirement that counsel be appointed "in any case where an agreement has been submitted with respect to such child or children as provided in subsection (a) of section 46-42"; P.A. 75-530 referred to return day of complaint rather than its date of filing and added general reference to hearing of counsel on all matters pertaining to "interests" of child or children; P.A. 78-230 divided section into Subsecs. and restated provisions; Sec. 46-43 transferred to Sec. 46b-54 in 1979 and reference to Sec. 46-36 revised to reflect its transfer.